

## Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 H-03

DOTE-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 IO-15 NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OPIC-12 SPC-03

TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 SCEM-02 INT-08

EPA-04 CEQ-02 OIC-04 DRC-01 /191 W

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R 101153Z OCT 73

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 808

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY PARIS UNN

UNCLAS OECD PARIS 26367

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, OECD

SUBJECT: MTC: AD HOC GROUP ON FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE MEETING

OCTOBER 8, 1973

1. SUMMARY: A MEETING OF THE OECD AD HOC GROUP ON FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE WAS HELD ON OCTOBER 8. THE GROUP ELECTED DUCLOS OF FRANCE AS ITS CHAIRMAN, REPLACING KALTENBACH OF FRANCE WHO RESIGNED HIS POST. THE AD HOC GROUP REVIEWED PROGRESS MADE BY THE SECRETARIAT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAM AND CONSIDERED VARIOUS REPORTS PREPARED IN THIS CONNECTION. AFTER DISCUSSING THESE REPORTS THE GROUP DECIDED THAT MORE DATA WAS NEEDED BEFORE

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PREPARATION OF A PRELIMINARY REPORT COULD COMMENCE. THIS DATA

SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.  
TENTATIVE CONCLUSIONS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES ON EXISTING DATA SHOULD  
REACH THE SECRETARIAT BY JAN. 15, 1974 SO THAT THEY MAY BE CONSI-  
DERED AT THE NEXT AD HOC GROUP MEETING ON FEB. 11. END SUMMARY.

2. EXISTING DATA REGARDING OBSERVANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

FOR THE PREVENTION OF THE POLLUTION OF THE SEA BY OIL BY FLAGS  
OF CONVENIENCE VESSELS SUGGESTS THAT SAVINGS WHICH MAY BE ENJOYED  
FROM NON-OBSERVANCE OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE 1954 CONVENTION AND  
AMENDMENTS IN FORCE ARE SMALL AND IN NO WAY SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT  
FROM THOSE WHICH MAY BE ENJOYED BY SHIPS OF OTHER FLAGS. IT  
WAS DECIDED TO AWAIT CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE ON MARINE POL-  
LUTION BEFORE DRAWING ANY FURTHER CONCLUSIONS IN THIS AREA.

3. LIMITED SAMPLING OF DATA RELATING FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE  
VESSELS AND MARINE CASUALTIES SHOWS THAT LIABILITY TO CASUALTY  
IS NOT SIGNIFICANTLY RELATED TO VESSEL AGE OR SIZE. ANALYSIS  
REINFORCES EARLIER STUDY'S CONCLUSIONS THAT SHIP FLYING FLAGS  
OF CONVENIENCE ARE MORE THAN TWICE AS LIKELY TO BE INVOLVED IN  
MARINE CASUALTIES AS SHIPS FLYING THE FLAGS OF OECD MEMBERS.  
FURTHER SAMPLING IS CONTEMPLATED BEFORE REQUESTING BROADENING OF  
INVESTIGATIVE MANDATE IN THIS AREA FROM MTC.

4. US DEL QUESTIONED VALIDITY OF STATISTICS RELATING TO MANNING,  
WAGES AND SOCIAL BENEFITS AS THESE FAILED TO SHOW EXTENT OF PUBLIC  
SOCIAL BENEFITS EXTENDED TO CREWS OF SOME OECD MEMBERS AND CONSE-  
QUENTLY WERE NOT REFLECTED IN THEIR REMUNERATIONS. NORWEGIAN  
DEL RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION OF DATA AGREED TO REVIEW STATISTICS  
AND ATTEMPT MORE MEANINGFUL ANALYSIS. US DEL ALSO AGREED TO OBTAIN  
BETTER DATA RELATING TO CARRIAGE OF US OCEAN-BORNE TRADE BY  
FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE VESSELS.BROWN

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
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